seed technology including hybrid seed production, bioinformatics, food technology, biological control of pests, organic agriculture and Human Resource Development. It has been agreed to set up an India-Mauritius joint committee comprising experts from both the countries for effective implementation of the MoU, monitoring of specific programmes or projects, defining financial and administrative terms of cooperation and recommending amendment to or extension of the MoU.

KVPY in Karnataka

5514. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students who were selected under the Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana in Karnataka for taking up research careers in basic sciences, engineering and medicine during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002;

(b) the amount of scholarship released to these students during the above period; and

(c) how many of the students selected during the above period are residents of Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) The number of students selected under the Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana in Karnataka—

Year	Basic Sciences	Engineering	Medicine
2000-2001	9	—	—
2001-2002	12	—	1

(b) The amount of scholarship released to the above students—

Year	Basic Science	Engineering	Medicine
2000-2001	Rs. 4,56,000/-	—	—
2001-2002	Rs.2,60,000/-	—	Rs. 30,000/-

(c) Number of students selected from Karnataka out of the total—

Year	Basic Science	Engineering	Medicine
2000-2001	9 out of 83	0 out of 5	0 out of 4
2001-2002	12 out of 86	0 out of 4	1 out of 8

Steel plant in Bihar

†5515. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to set up any steel plant in Bihar;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government at present to set up a steel plant in Bihar.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Indian Steel Industry is passing through a difficult phase due to adverse conditions in the domestic and international steel markets. Some of the factors contributing to the present adverse conditions are excess supply and low demand for steel in the domestic market; import of steel at low prices; falling steel prices and higher production costs. In this scenario, setting up of new steel plants will not be a viable proposition.

Institute for Adventurous Sports

†5516. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a National Adventure Sports Institute, to promote adventurous sports;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.